

FAQ for the Sea Shore Flow (SSF)

If you have questions about the SSF that are not answered below please contact your Type Commander, the detailers at PERS-403, or the community managers at N133.

Q - What is the purpose of the gates?

A – When we were designing the new SSF we wanted to ensure there was sufficient senior enlisted leadership at sea to successfully execute our community's mission. It was very common for a Sailor to have multiple extensions, split tours and back to back sea tours early in their career. This resulted in our senior enlisted leaders being eligible for retirement before they actually completed the tours for which they were advanced to perform such as EDMC in the submarine community and DLCPO in the surface community. We created the 17 year gate to make sure our senior enlisted Sailors performed these jobs. To uphold the 17 year gate, we need a mechanism to correct the SSF for Sailors early in their career. The 10 year gate ensures any extensions do not change a SSF significantly. This also protects the Sailor and the community from any one command acting without regard for the future for that Sailor's SSF.

Q – How do I get a gate waiver?

A – We screen 100% of our Sailors for instructor duty one year prior to their projected rotation date (PRD) from sea. When we do this screening we make determinations for gate waivers and changes to SSF if a gate waiver is needed so there is no need to specifically seek a waiver. Additionally, any time a PRD change is requested a gate determination will be made in the PRD change process. If the PRD change results in a gate waiver, changes to SSF and a gate waiver will be decided at that time.

If a waiver is required for your career timing, the information will be input into your record with no action required by you. If you feel there is a reason for you to seek a gate waiver outside of the normal transfer process, contact your detailer to discuss the waiver or simply submit a signed 1306/7 to your detailer for gate waiver determination.

As we move forward and the community follows SSF, the need for gate waivers will diminish ensuring our Sailors can better plan their family's lives and our community can better plan/manage manning community manning. This will result in more consistent manning so commands can better plan for their future success and the need for unexpected PRD changes will diminish.

Q - Will I be expected to do a one year shore tour to meet the 10 or 17 year gate?

A – No one is expected to do a one year tour. We realize that there are many Sailors that are out of sequence with the new SSF. A one year tour does not benefit the command or the Sailor in most cases. Instead we will adjust the shore tour and provide a gate waiver with a planned modification to the SSF for the rest of the Sailors career to protect the Sailor, the commands and the community.

Examples are below:

A Sailor completing his first sea tour that will have 8 years and 3 months of service at transfer.

- Provided a month for transfer time and a 32 month shore tour (completes shore tour at 11 yrs)
- This results in a 12 month 10 year gate waiver
- Change the follow on SSF as follows:
 - o A 36 mth sea tour followed by a 36 mth shore tour and a 2 month 17 yr gate waiver
 - o This allows a month of transfer time to be assumed between each command

A previous Junior Staff Instructor completing his 40 month sea tour at 8 years 3 months.

- Provided a month for transfer time and a 30 month shore tour per new SSF model
 - o Complete shore tour at 10 yrs and 10 months
- This results in a 10 month 10 year gate waiver (in general, we will not shorten a tour to less than 30 months in the gate waiver process)
- Change the follow on SSF as follows:
 - o A 36 mth sea tour followed by a 36 mth shore tour and no 17 yr gate waiver at that time.
 - o This allows a month of transfer time to be assumed between each command

A Chief transferring to shore duty at 15yr 5 months.

- Provided a month for transfer time and a 30 month shore tour (complete shore at 18 yrs)
- This results in a 12 month 17 year gate waiver
- Change the follow on SSF as follows:
 - o The Chief will go back to sea for a LCPO tour, DLCPO tour or an EDMC tour.

There will be Sailors in the 15-18 year window that we grant a waiver of the 17 year gate to complete a full 40 month shore tour depending on the situation and Sailor. Again we realize this is a significant change in our community and we will use our best judgment for the good of the Sailor, the transferring and gaining commands, and the community.

Q - How will I know my new PRD and the changes to my SSF?

A – Your Chain of Command or Command Career Counselor should be able to help you determine your new PRD. If they are unable to help, your detailer is available to assist you (surf_nukes@navy.mil or sub_nukes@navy.mil). If you are unable to determine an answer you may also contact the community manager (bullnuke@navy.mil). When you negotiate for orders on CMS/ID you can contact your detailer to ask about your gate waivers. When you receive your new orders there will be notes in the orders that describe the gate waiver that you were granted and the changes to SSF that were determined for the rest of your career. You should save this information for your future career planning.